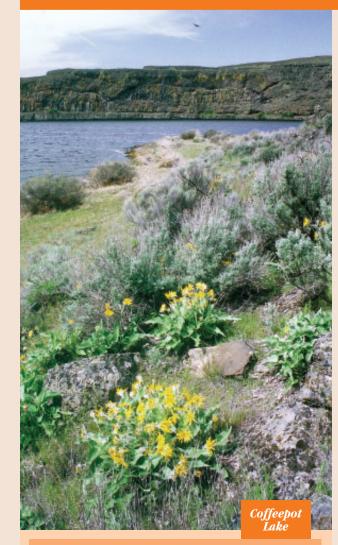
COFFEEPOT



COFFEEPOT

Recreation Area

Fish along the lake's distinctive shoreline surrounded by basalt cliffs. Listen to echoing bonks of thousands of geese during their Fall migration.

Bureau of Land Management



Welcome to Coffeepot

Impressive basalt cliffs frame this eastern Washington lake. More than 900 acres bordering the lake are managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for its wildlife habitat, as well as for recreational opportunities.

Getting There

Located west of Harrington, in Lincoln County, Washington. From Highway 28, turn west onto Coffeepot Road and travel about 12 miles to the gravel entrance on the left. Plan for a drive of one to two hours from Spokane.

Geology

This area holds a rich geologic history. Glacial dams that failed and reformed 12,000 years ago caused as many as 100 catastrophic floods to occur periodically—some carrying as much as 500 cubic miles of water. Water poured from glacial Lake Missoula in Montana, into Idaho's Pend Oreille Lake, down the Spokane Valley, and into the area of Coffeepot Lake. This drainage created the harsh rocky environment seen here that is often referred to as "Channeled Scablands."

Recreational Activities

A picnic and camping area is conveniently located near the fishing dock and boat launch. Here you can enjoy a simple picnic or stay overnight after a day on the lake. Bring your fishing gear and try your luck for rainbow trout, largemouth bass, yellow perch, yellow bullhead, black crappie and sunfish, but first check the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife fishing regulations.

Keep in mind that waterfowl are protected by a game reserve on public lands around Coffeepot Lake, and that no hunting is allowed within this reserve. Guns and hunting dogs are also prohibited within the game reserve.

Wildflowers

The variety of flowers growing here might surprise you! Serviceberry, chokecherry, and mock orange shrubs decorate talus slopes and cliff bases. Richardson's penstemon graces rocky outcrops with its brilliant magenta flowers. Wild buckwheats add yellow, pink, and white accents to shallow soil patches. The sagebrush mariposa lily displays deli-cate lavender flowers with intricate colors and markings. Yampah's slender stems and lacy white flowers are a contrast above mid-summer grasses, and milkweed puts on a show in low moist areas.

Wilblife

Coffeepot Lake is also a great spot for bird watching. You might spot a vulture or prairie falcon along the cliffs, or the more common nesting birds such as greater Canada geese, red-tailed hawk, and kestrel near the lake. In 2001, a peregrine falcon--a state listed endangered species — nested in this area. Other wildlife sights and sounds to be looking and listening for are bobcat tracks and wild turkey calls. Watch where you walk...**rattlesnakes** have been seen in the area.

Cultural

For thousands of years, the native people relied on this land, traveling to the rivers during the spring and summer salmon runs to catch fish, searching the dry hillsides to dig roots, and climbing into the mountains to harvest berries and get deer meat for winter meals. They journeyed back to the lowlands to spend winters in their mat-covered houses tucked into sheltered spots. Many of these same natural resources are used today by descendants of these "First Peoples."

The Coffeepot Lake recreation site has been used continuously for recreation purposes since the privately owned Coffeepot Resort first began renting boats in 1930. The resort grew through the years, incorporating a World War II government surplus barracks from the Spokane area as a lodge. Back then, fishing was mostly for such warmwater species as bass, crappie, perch, and bluegill. The resort was sold to a private hunting and fishing club in the 1970s, and in 1997 was acquired by BLM.

"We hope you enjoy your visit to the Coffeepot area. Come back again."

For more information, contact:
Spokane BLM District
1103 N. Fancher • Spokane, WA 99212
Phone: 509/536-1200

Check our website for other recreational opportunities and periodic updates: www.or.blm.gov/spokane

BLM/OR/WA/GI-03/014-1122

